

### REMARKS

Applicants request reconsideration of the application in view of this Amendment.

#### Claim 1

To overcome the 35 USC 112 rejections, the phrase "which can be crosslinked intramolecularly . . ." is replaced by an active step (step iii), and the phrase containing the word "preferred" is omitted.

As amended, claim 1 recites the steps of adapting a polymer to a template compound to obtain a conformation of the polymer, and then fixing the conformation through crosslinking. The reference to Kiessling, including Kiessling's claim 28, lacks the claimed fixing step subsequent to the adapting step.

That is because Kiessling discloses the polymerization of a monomer in the presence of a metal carbene catalyst to form a polymer template with a latent reactive group, and combining the polymer template with a functionalizing reagent to react the latent reactive group of the polymer template with the reactive group of the functionalizing reagent to form a multivalent array (Kiessling's claim 1). Kiessling's claim 28 refers to a reaction of the polymer template to functionalize its backbone alkene bonds. As can be seen from Figures 1A and 1B as well as from the explanation of the mechanism of the disclosed reaction (description, column 10, line 4 to 35), this reaction consists in the attachment of a pendant functional group to the polymer template through latent reactive groups on the polymer template. This reaction of Kiessling does not lead to the crosslinking of the used polymer. In contrast, in claim 1, the polymer is crosslinked after adapting to a template compound.

Therefore, claim 1 is patentable over the cited prior art.

#### Claims 2-9 and 15-20

To overcome the 35 USC 112 rejections, the word "preferred" is omitted in claim 4, and claims 10-14 are rewritten as new claims 15-19 replacing the phrase "preparable . . ." with an active step.

Claims 2-9 and 15-19 depend from claim 1. The limitations that they add to claim 1 distinguish them further from claim 1. Therefore, claims 2-9 and 15-20 also are patentable.

**Claims 20-24**

Like claim 1, new independent claim 20 recites the steps of adapting a polymer to a template compound to obtain a conformation, and then fixing the conformation through crosslinking. The reference to Kiessling, including Keissling's claim 28, lacks the claimed fixing step subsequent to the adapting step. Therefore, claim 20 is patentable over the cited prior art.

Claims 21-24 depend from claim 20. The limitations that they add to claim 20 distinguish them further from the prior art. Therefore, claims 21-24 are also patentable.

Applicant respectfully submits that the application should now be in condition for allowance, and allowance is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

*Mitchell Rose*

Mitchell Rose, Patent Agent  
Registration No. 47,906  
JONES DAY  
901 Lakeside Ave.  
Cleveland, OH 44114  
(216)586-7094

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